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CC97-121

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To	COMMISSIONER	
From	S. Newcombe	
Subject	SUSAN NESS	
Co.		
Dept.		
Phone #	405-355-8000	
Fax #	405-355-8007	
Fax #	202-418-2821	

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April 17, 1997

JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Susan Ness
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I read the newspaper with great interest that Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is applying for FCC approval to enter the long distance business. Wouldn't it be nice to deal with just one telephone company? I am certainly a supporter of this idea.

Besides, competition is good. It will result in more choice, better service and greater value for me, the customer. It has been my observance, the stronger the competitors the stronger the competition. It is time to open the long distance market to another capable telephone company allowing it to fight with the "big three" in order to earn my business.

I am ready for the convenience of dealing with one company for all my telecommunications needs. I respectfully encourage you to support Southwestern Bell's application for approval to enter the long distance business.

Sincerely,



Stephen K. Newcombe

cc:
Commissioner Reed Hundt
Commissioner James Quello
Commissioner Rachelle Chong

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April 22, 1997

JUN 13 1997

FCC Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Ness
Fax # 202-418-2821

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Commissioner Ness:

As a resident in the State of Oklahoma I would like to see Southwestern Bell Telephone granted the right to provide long-distance service . Over the past years we have been hassled by every company that is allowed to "pop up overnight".

Southwestern Bell Telephone has always had a reputation to service their people and you always know what to expect up front.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Carole Scott
1701 Wilshire
Duncan, OK 73533
405-255-8785

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Van Waters & Rogers Inc.

A ROYAL PAKHOED COMPANY

6100 Carillon Point
Kirkland, WA 98033
(425)889-3818
(425)889-4110

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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

**Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW Room 802
Washington, DC 20554**

Dear Commissioner Ness:

We understand that the FCC is considering a proposal to increase the business line Subscriber Line Charge and to impose a new charge of at least \$4.50 per line per month to support extending new telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries, and rural health care facilities. At the same time that it is considering imposing these new costs on American businesses, we are told that the Commission will not take the long overdue step of bringing rates closer to the true economic cost of local access services.

I urge you not to adopt the foregoing proposals which would, in effect, impose a new tax on American businesses, regardless of whether it is characterized as a "rate rebalancing" or "modification of rate structures". With all due respect, we believe that the imposition of such taxes is the business of the people's representatives, not appointed officials. Moreover, nationwide educational and health care initiatives should be considered on a comprehensive basis by all interested authorities, not just as a telecommunications matter by the FCC.

The time has come for the Commission to reform its rules governing access charges, which are more than \$3 billion a year higher than they should be. All consumers, businesses as well as residential, deserve protection from excessive monopoly prices. The Administration's social policy agenda should be addressed in other ways and not get in the way of these reforms.

Sincerely:

Steven E. Dennis

Network Architect

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MAY 19 2 46 PM '97

William Wekselman
5624 Hempstead Rd., Apt.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217

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Susan Ness, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
1919 M St NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Madam,

I am writing in regard to the proposal to be filed by WQED TV, Channel 13, Pittsburgh, to transfer ownership of its second station, WQEX, Channel 16. Channel 16 is reserved for public broadcasting. It would be transferred to Cornerstone Television, which presently operates on Channel 40. Cornerstone broadcasts right wing Christian programming which appeals to a narrow segment of the community. That is not appropriate for a station reserved for public broadcasting, which must serve the entire community. I request that the application to transfer be rejected.

Sincerely,
William Wekselman

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FRANK KEATING
GOVERNOR

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MAY 19 2 35 PM



LEO E. PRESLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bill Cahn
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RONALD ROSENFELD
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

May 13, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

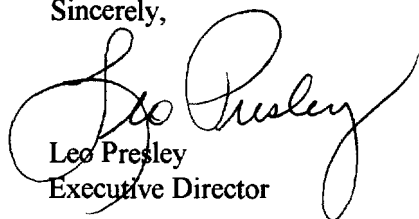
I wish to express my support for Southwestern Bell's recent application to the FCC requesting the utility be allowed to offer long distance telephone services in Oklahoma.

With the many other ways they have proven themselves to be an excellent corporate citizen, Southwestern Bell has a long and illustrious track record of supporting and furthering economic development in our state. Their efforts in this arena have been for the good of the entire state. As such, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce has had the opportunity of working with them on many different projects.

It is our belief the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's decision to allow Southwestern Bell to offer long distance service in the state is sound and prudent. Your further approval of the firm's application could lead to additional customer service offerings, as well as stable to lower prices as a result of a competitive environment.

Therefore, I am hopeful your consideration will result in a favorable ruling.

Sincerely,


Leo Presley
Executive Director

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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

900 North Stiles Avenue / P. O. Box 26980 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73126-0980 U.S.A.
Telephone: (405) 815-6552 or 1(800) TRY-OKLA • Fax: (405) 815-5199



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April 22, 1997

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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Chairman Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt,

A leading economic forecasting firm, The WEFA Group, has predicted that Southwestern Bell's entry into the long-distance market would help spur employment and economic growth in Oklahoma. According to The WEFA forecast, approximately 10,250 additional jobs and an additional \$712 million in real Gross State Product would be realized.

As executive director of the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC), those numbers were like music to my ears -- particularly the estimate of 4,147 new jobs created in Tulsa alone. Obviously, I support this application and urge you to do the same.

Actually, I'm not surprised by The WEFA numbers. Already, several companies in recent years have relocated to our community, citing Tulsa's and Oklahoma's centralized location in the United States as one key reason. Our central location, as they well know, results in lower product transportation expenses and in *lower long-distance bills*. It seems only logical that even more companies would be interested in our area when, as a result of Southwestern Bell's entry into the market, long-distance bills decrease even more.

The opportunity for further relocation of businesses into Tulsa is, of course, just one of many reasons for supporting this application. There is also the consideration of our current large, medium and small businesses -- not to mention the state's residential customers -- all of which stand to gain from Southwestern Bell's entry. The fact is, all Oklahomans will benefit once the application is approved.

You, Mr. Chairman, can help assure those benefits by approving Southwestern Bell's filing for long-distance service.

Sincerely,

Frank F. McCrady
Executive Director
Tulsa Economic Development Corporation

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CC: Commissioner James Quello
Commissioner Susan Ness ✓
Commissioner Rachelle Chong

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COMMISSION

0097-121

WAYNE R. ROGERS
5887 S JOPLIN
TULSA, OK 74135

April 16, 1997

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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Chairman Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt,

As a Silver Senator in the Oklahoma delegation of the National Silver Haired Congress, I feel it is my responsibility to keep informed on telecommunications issues that could impact my fellow senior citizens. Today, I write you in regards to one such issue, the filing by Southwestern Bell to offer long-distance services to the citizens of this state.

Many senior citizens, as you well know, no longer live within "local calling areas" of their loved ones. My wife and I in Tulsa, for example, place many calls to friends and relatives living in Illinois. You can probably understand that some calls are placed because of an emergency, where loved ones have become ill or, in extreme cases, even hospitalized. In these cases, keeping in touch requires additional phone calls, resulting in higher than expected bills from our long-distance carriers.

I can say truthfully that I can afford my long-distance bill, however large it becomes in any given month. Many other seniors can afford to pay their bills as well. Yet, as a Silver Senator, it is my responsibility to speak for and represent the hundreds of thousands of seniors who live on fixed incomes, and who dread those emergencies that result in inflated long-distance bills.

That said, let me express my support for Southwestern Bell's application for offering long-distance service. I'm convinced the competition Southwestern Bell brings to the market will result in lower rates, but at the very least help stabilize the market and restrict rates increases in the months and years ahead.

As you review Southwestern Bell's application, please consider the positive impact your approval will have not only on the senior community, but on Oklahomans as a whole. Emergencies, after all, don't just happen to the elderly.

Sincerely,

Wayne R. Rogers

Silver Senator-Oklahoma
National Silver Haired Congress

CC: Commissioner James Quello
Commissioner Susan Ness ✓
Commissioner Rachelle Chong

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HISPANIC - AMERICAN FOUNDATION

April 18, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Chairman Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Oklahoma is very fortunate to have Southwestern Bell as part of its corporate community.

In addition to its role of providing advance technology to businesses and homes, Southwestern Bell has played a key role in addressing the needs of youth in general and Hispanic students in particular. The following efforts are ones with which we are personally familiar:

- * A \$25,000.00 grant to the Tulsa ESL (English as a second language) Center, for the purpose of creating an interactive program to assist students and their parents.
- * Provided internet access to 660 classrooms in Oklahoma.
- * Funded programs electronically linking classrooms in Tulsa and donating computers to schools at risk.
- * Just this past week, SWB was our cosponsor for the First Annual Hispanic Students' Luncheon-High School. Students heard the message: Stay in school, and be somebody!

If Southwestern Bell becomes a long distance provider, the Tulsa community will enjoy the benefits of additional jobs and competitive prices.

We welcome the opportunity to acquaint you with this most responsible of corporate citizens.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Charney
Yolanda Charney

cc: Commissioners James Quello
Susan Ness & Rachelle Chong

Executive Director
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0097-121

JUN 13 1997

From: <MDSmelser@aol.com>

To: J1.J1 (FCCMAIL)

Date: 5/1/97 12:49am

Subject: sbc communications request to offer long distance service

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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It has come to my attention that SBC Communications has filed to offer long distance service in Oklahoma. In rural Oklahoma we are in great need of competition in local as well as long distance service. As a customer of both GTE (residence) and SBC (business), I feel that SBC has complied with the checklist to unbundle their services to other telephone companies in some areas of the state as there are companies now offering local service in SBC territories. SBC has offered superior local service to us and has always offered services before they were required to, unlike GTE and some other carriers we have had experience with. I and many other telephone customers want access to SBC services and want choice of LEC as soon as possible in rural areas as well as long distance service from this company. We feel SBC will work with customers in both types of service better than many of the companies we now are forced to deal with. Since GTE can already offer long distance in their LEC areas, it is only fair that SBC have the same access to customers and customers should have access to them. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Mary Day Smelser
Chairman, Wide Area Calling Task Force
Prague/Paden, OK

CC: A7.A7 (rchong, sness, jquello)

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